

members ROBERT WEXLER of Florida, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN of Florida, and SAM GEJDENSON of Connecticut, along with Congressman MARTIN FROST of Texas.

To add insult to injury, recent news reports have uncovered that former members of the Nazi army, including non-German members of the SS, often receive far more generous pensions than do the victims they persecuted. Some of the people who receive German veteran pensions are known killers or were personally responsible in acts of genocide. Meanwhile, Holocaust survivors, many of whom are unable to afford the medical care they desperately need, must battle onerous restrictions and regulations in order to receive their meager benefits.

One example is the case of Wolfgang Lehnigk-Emden. This former Nazi guard murdered 15 women and children in Italy in 1943. Because he was later shot in the leg and suffers a mild disability, he now receives a generous pension—a pension three times what is given to Holocaust survivors—because he is considered a war victim. This is but one example of Germany's hypocrisy. Another example is the story of former SS Guard Wilhelm Mohnke.

According to the Department of Justice, Mr. Mohnke was personally involved in the massacre of 72 American POW's in 1944. Due to injuries he later sustained, the German Government gives Wilhelm Mohnke a war victim's pension equivalent to \$560 per month.

Many people have been instrumental in the fight for justice for all Holocaust survivors around the world. Menachem Rosensaft, Founding Chairman of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and its president Rositta Ehrlich Kenigsberg have worked tirelessly on their crusade for survivors' rights. Benjamin Meed, president of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors has also worked tirelessly on behalf of Holocaust survivors worldwide. I am forever indebted to each of them for their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, Holocaust survivors are an aging, finite population, who are not asking for much. I believe that these survivors deserve sufficient reparations to ensure that no Holocaust survivors are forced to live in conditions worse than those generally enjoyed by the surviving former Nazis who persecuted them.

TEXT OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 112,
INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN
B. MALONEY

A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the German Government should expand and simplify its reparations system, provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in Eastern and Central Europe, and set up a fund to help cover the medical expenses of Holocaust survivors

Whereas the annihilation of six million European Jews during the Holocaust and the murder of millions of others by the Nazi German state constituted one of the most tragic episodes in the history of man's inhumanity to man;

Whereas there are more than 125,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States and approximately 500,000 living around the world;

Whereas aging Holocaust survivors throughout the world are still suffering from permanent injuries suffered at the hands of the Nazis and many are unable to afford critically needed medical care;

Whereas while the German government has attempted to address the needs of Holocaust

survivors, many are excluded from reparations because of the onerous eligibility requirements imposed by the German government;

Whereas the German government routinely rejects survivors' claims on the ground that the survivor did not present the claim correctly or in a timely fashion, that the survivor cannot demonstrate to the Government's satisfaction that a particular illness or medical condition is the direct consequence of persecution in a Nazi-created ghetto or concentration camp, or that the German authorities do not consider the survivor is not considered sufficiently destitute;

Whereas tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union and other formerly Communist countries in Eastern and Central Europe have never received reparations from Germany and a smaller number has received a token amount;

Whereas after more than 50 years, hundreds of thousands of Holocaust survivors continue to be denied justice and compensation from the German government;

Whereas the German government is paying generous disability pensions to veterans of the Nazi armed forces, including non-German veterans of the Waffen-SS.

Whereas in 1996, the German government paid \$7.7 billion in such pensions to 1.1 million veterans, including 3,000 veterans and their dependents now living in the United States;

Whereas such pensions are a veteran's benefit provided over and above the full health coverage that all German citizens, including veterans of the Waffen-SS, receive from their government; and

Whereas it is abhorrent that Holocaust survivors should live out their remaining years in conditions worse than those enjoyed by the surviving former Nazis who persecuted them;

Therefore be it resolved that it is the sense of the Congress that:

The German government should expand and simplify its system of reparations so that all survivors of the Holocaust can receive reparations, regardless of their nationality, length or place of internment, or their current financial situation;

The German government should provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union and other former Communist countries in Eastern and Central Europe;

The German government should fulfill its responsibilities to victims of the Holocaust and immediately set up a comprehensive medical fund to cover medical expenses of Holocaust survivors worldwide; and

The German government should help restore the dignity of Holocaust survivors by paying them sufficient reparations to ensure that no Holocaust survivor be forced by poverty to live in conditions worse than those enjoyed by the surviving former Nazis who persecuted them.

AMIA TERRORIST BOMBING ANNIVERSARY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this week is the third anniversary of the terrible destructive AMIA terrorist bombing of the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This deadly international terrorist attack, directed at the very heart of the Jewish center of life in

Argentina, took 86 lives, and wounded more than 300 innocents. It has badly shaken the confidence of the largest Jewish community in Latin America on the critical issue of their very safety and security.

It is essential for the Argentine authorities, the U.S. Government, and the world community to do all we can both individually and collectively to bring to justice those who undertook this deadly and cowardly terrorist act.

Hizballah, with its known links to Iran, and which our Government and others have indicated were responsible for this AMIA attack, is now clearly operating in our own hemisphere. We are all at risk. We must all work to insure that those responsible for this terrorist act are brought to justice and that the message is clearly sent that terrorism, no matter where or why, will not go unpunished by civilized society.

Our International Relations Committee staff have visited Argentina in an effort to see what more the United States can do to help solve this terrorist bombing. Based on our staff inquiry, the committee asked that the State Department, which runs a very effective international terrorist rewards program, have its experts visit Argentina and offer assistance. We now have offered to help the Argentine authorities develop a meaningful and effective publicity program for their own already announced terrorist reward for help in solving this deadly AMIA attack.

We anxiously await the further publication and distribution of additional material and efforts by Argentina to publicize the reward on the AMIA attack. As we know, our own reward efforts along these lines have played a critical role in solving or bringing to justice individuals from around the globe involved in international terrorist attacks directed at the United States.

COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH OF MEGAN ILYSSA LEON

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Leon family on the birth of their daughter, Megan Ilyssa. She was born July 10, weighing 8 pounds 10 ounces. I am sure that Megan's parents and grandparents are excited to see that she is a healthy, happy child.

Megan's family has been in Massachusetts for more than a century now and were often involved in the world of politics. Her great, great, great grandfather, John Joseph Tobin, was one of the first Irishmen ever elected to the Boston City Council. Megan's great grandfather, John Michael Downing, served as the court officer of the Massachusetts State Senate for many years. Her grandmother, Kathleen Patricia Leon, was appointed to the Massachusetts Equal Educational Opportunity Commission by Gov. Michael Dukakis.

I offer my warmest wishes to Megan for a happy and healthy life. And, I look forward to one day seeing her involved in our Nation's political process.